

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 00640 271204Z
ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 VO-03 INSE-00 ORM-02 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 IO-13 /034 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8754
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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STATE FOR D/HA, VO AND ARA/MGT

DEPT PLEASE PASS INS/CO FOR BROBSON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CVIS, SREF, AFSP
SUBJECT: PAROLE PROGRAM FOR REFUGEES IN ARGENTINA

1. SUMMARY. THE REFUGEE PROGRAM IN BUENOS AIRES IS NOW FUNCTIONING SMOOTHLY. WE HAVE A FULL STAFF OF LOCAL AND AMERICAN EMPLOYEES, AND PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED AND APPEAR TO BE OPERATING WELL. BARRING UNFORSEEN COMPLICATIONS, WE ANTICIPATE BEING ABLE TO COMPLETE OUR PROCESSING OF REFUGEES FOR MOVEMENT RAPIDLY UPON RECEIPT OF SECURITY CHECKS AND SPONSORSHIP. END SUMMARY.

2. WE ARE NOW INTERVIEWING 42 CASES PER WEEK, AND INTEND TO CONTINUE TO DO SO UNTIL SUFFICIENT CASES TO MEET OUR NUMERICAL GOAL ARE IN THE PIPELINE. UNHCR INTENDS TO HIRE ANOTHER TYPIST TO HELP WITH INITIAL CASE PRESENTATION AND WITH PREPARATION OF FORMS AND DOCUMENTS FOR FINAL INTER VIEWS, A WORKLOAD WHICH WILL GROW AS THE PROGRAM PROGRESSES. THE UNHCR HAS ALSO AGREED TO DO EVERYTHING IN THEIR POWER TO INCREASE THE RATE OF PRESENTATIONS OF NEW CASES FROM THE PRESENT 25 PER WEEK. COOPERATION WITH UNHCR

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IS EXCELLENT.

3. THE PROGRAM HAS ADEQUATE PERSONNEL RESOURCES. FSO-6 WILLIAM MULLER HAS BEEN ASSIGNED FULL-TIME TO THE PROGRAM SINCE JANUARY 10, AND WILL PROVIDE NEEDED CONTINUITY UPON DEPARTURE OF TDY CASTEEL. PROGRAM ALSO NOW HAS A COMPETENT LOCALLY-HIRED AMERICAN SECRETARY, AN EXPERIENCED IMMIGRANT VISA LOCAL EMPLOYEE, AND AN

EXCELLENT TYPIST.

4. THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF OUR CASES HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY OTHER COUNTRIES, PRIMARILY CANADA. THE CANAKANS HAVE AGREED INFORMALLY TO LET US KNOW THE REASONS FOR REJECTION ON THE BASIS OF LISTS TO BE SUBMITTED PERIODICALLY. FROM THE FIRST LIST OF 73 CASES, ONE HAD BEEN REJECTED ON SECURITY GROUNDS, ONE ON CRIMINAL GROUNDS, AND THREE AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION OF THE INTERVIEWING OFFICER. THE OTHERS HAD BEEN REJECTED BECAUSE THEY DID NOT MEET THE CRITERIA FOR THE CANADIAN RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM. ALTHOUGH THE CANADIANS DO NOT SAY SO, WE AND THE UNHCR ARE UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THEIR MOST IMPORT CRITERIA HAS BEEN TO OBTAIN GOOD IMMIGRANTS. WE WILL CAREFULLY CONSIDER THOSE CASE REJECTED FOR CAUSE, BUT DO NOT INTEND TO PLACE MUCH EMPHASIS ON THE CANADIAN ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE LATTER GROUP.

5. THE ARGENTINE FOREIGN OFFICE HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE CHECKS ON THE BASIS OF PERIODIC LISTS OF 50 OR MORE NAMES. THESE CLEARANCES SHOULD TAKE NO MORE THAN A WEEK.

6. WE ARE SENDING SPONSORSHIP CABLES TO D/HA IN EVERY CASE WHICH IS NOT REJECTED AT THE PRELIMINARY INTERVIEW. WHILE THIS MAY RESULT IN SOME INCONVENIENCE TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES BECAUSE OF FALL-OUT, WE BELIEVE THAT OBTAINING SPONSORSHIP AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE IS ESSENTIAL IF THE REFUGEES ARE TO BE MOVED RAPIDLY.

7. WE EXPECT TO HAVE SOME 85 CASES READY FOR INS/CON OFF REVIEW BY JANUARY 28, AND 40 MORE BY FEBRUARY 4. CLEARANCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM SANTIAGO WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR MOST OF THESE CASES, BUT CONSIDERABLE PROCESSING TIME COULD BE SAVED IF THE INS REVIEW WERE COMPLETED AND CASES PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT AND INS PENDING RECEIPT OF CLEARANCES. ONCE AGAIN, THERE WOULD BE SOME FALL-OUT, BUT WE BELIEVE THIS WOULD BE COMPENSATED FOR BY THE RAPIDITY WITH WHICH GOOD CASES COULD BE MOVED.

8. FSO CASTEEL'S TDY HERE EXPIRES AT THE LATEST FEBRUARY 10, AND HE IS NEEDED AT HIS OWN POST. THE EMBASSY FEELS THAT THE REFUGEE PROGRAM HAS NOW REACHED THE STAGE WHERE IT CAN BE TAKEN OVER BY ANOTHER OFFICER AT AN EARLY DATE. IN FACT, IT WOULD APPEAR TO US TO BE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR THE TAKE-OVER TO OCCUR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT THE NEW TDY OFFICER ARRIVE NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 7 TO PROVIDE FOR CONSULTATIONS AND A SMOOTH CHANGE OVER IN PERSONNEL. WITH REFERENCE TO CONSUL GENERAL HUEY'S CONVERSATION WITH CLARKE ALLARD JANUARY 3, WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED WHETHER L. VILLALOVOS HAS ACCEPTED APPOINTMENT AND ETA.
HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 26-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition History: n/a
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